

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

In response to the drawing objection, a replacement drawing (sheet 1/1, including Figs. 1-3) is submitted herewith to clearly label, in Fig. 2, the “wire” (diagonal line) connecting the connection terminal 4 and current regulating diodes 1 as cable 10.

No change was made to Fig. 1 or Fig. 3.

Attachment: Replacement sheet (Figs. 1-3)
Annotated Sheet (Figs. 1-3)

REMARKS

Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-10 and 17-19 will be all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1-2 have been amended. Claim 16 has been canceled without prejudice. Claim 19 has been added. Claims 3 and 6-9 are objected to as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 2, 5, 10 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the connection terminal comprises a holding portion for holding the electric conductor and energization is conducted at the holding portion. The "holding portion" functions to physically hold the electric conductor in a jig, as well as to electrically connect the connecting terminal and the electric conductor (outgoing lead wire of the electric conductor).

New claim 19 depends from claim 1, and recites that the electric conductor is held in the holding portion by welding or by inserting the electric conductor in a socket.

The amendment to claim 1 and new claim 19 find support in the specification, for example, at pages 30-31 and pages 34-35.

Namely, the specification describes at page 30, lines 2 to 4 (in Example 1) that the connection terminal and the lead of electric conductor are electrically connected. The specification further describes at page 30, the last line to page 31, second line that "these electric conductors were connected by welding to the connection terminals of the jig for producing capacitors...." Accordingly, the outgoing lead wire of the electric conductor is electrically connected and physically fixed to the connecting terminal for the electric conductor by welding.

The specification describes at page 34, lines 20 to 24 (in Example 2) that "the connection terminal for electric conductor used was a connection terminal having a round pin DIP socket

structure with 64 pins at a pitch of 2.54 mm (PCD Receptacle 399 series, manufactured by Tokiwa & Co., Inc.)", and further describes at page 35, lines 11-13 that "the thus-constituted electric conductors were inserted into the connection terminals of the jig for producing capacitors, which was produced above, while aligning the direction." The Example shows a case where a connecting terminal for electric conductor has a socket structure into which the electric conductor is inserted. Since a socket structure is a structure for both of electrical and physical connections, any person skilled in the art to which the invention pertains reading the instant specification would readily understand that the socket structure serves as a "holding portion."

Entry of the Amendments is respectfully requested.

I. Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner has initialed the references listed on the Forms PTO/SB/08 submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed October 15, 2009, thereby confirming that the references therein have been made of record.

The Examiner states (at page 3 of the Action) that the Japanese Office Action dated September 15, 2009, which cited the references listed on the Forms PTO/SB/08 has not been considered, because it is a non-English language document.

In response, Applicants submit herewith an English translation of the above-mentioned Japanese Office Action in a Supplement Information Disclosure Statement. Consideration is respectfully requested.

II. Response to Specification Objection

The Examiner has objected to the Specification as missing the heading "Brief Description of the Figures."

The specification has been amended, accordingly, to move the "Brief Description of the Drawings" from page 29 to page 5 (just before the DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION).

The specification has been further amended to provide proper description corresponding to the amendment made to Fig. 2, as explained below.

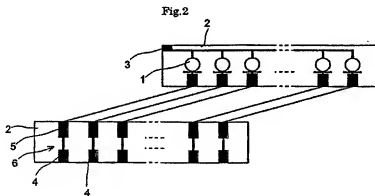
Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

III. Response to Drawing Objection

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a), as not showing the feature of "cable" of claim 4.

Applicants respond as follows.

At least Fig. 2 (reproduced below) of the present application shows the feature of "cable" that electrically connects the connection terminal for the electric conductor and the output of the current ejection-type constant current source, as claimed in claim 4.



As described in the instant specification, at page 13 in relation to Fig. 2:

Fig. 2 is a schematic view showing one example of a jig for producing capacitors, comprising a current regulating diode group connected by wiring to a part of a plate-like jig for producing capacitors. On an insulating substrate 2, two or more electronic members 6 obtained by connecting in series the connection terminal 4 for electric conductor to a cable terminal 5 are arranged in the same direction. Each of the

cathodes 1a of the current regulating diodes 1 is connected by wiring to each cable terminal 5 and the anodes of the current regulating diode group are connected by circuit to a terminal 3.

In response to the drawing objection, a replacement drawing (sheet 1/1, including Figs. 1-3) is submitted herewith to clearly label, in Fig. 2, the "wire" (diagonal line) connecting the connection terminal 4 and current regulating diodes 1 as cable 10. The relevant portion of the instant specification in relation to Fig. 2 has been amended accordingly.

No new matter has been added.

Withdrawal of the objection and acceptance of the replacement drawing sheet are respectfully requested.

IV. Response to Claim Objection

Claim 2 was objected to because there is insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "each connection terminal."

In response, claim 2 has been amended to introduce proper antecedent basis for the limitation "each connection terminal."

Withdrawal of the forgoing objection to claim 2 is respectfully requested.

V. Response to Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-10, 16, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claims 1 & 2

Regarding claims 1-2, the Examiner states that it is unclear as to whether or not "a semiconductor layer", "two or more electric conductors" and "dielectric layer" are actually intended to be part of the jig structure of claims 1 and 2, and thus, those claims are indefinite.

Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1, for example, recites a jig for producing capacitors, which is used for forming a semiconductor layer by means of energization on two or more electric conductors each having formed on the surface thereof a dielectric layer. The intended-use language of claim 1 does not by itself render the claim indefinite. Whether “a semiconductor layer,” “two or more electric conductors” and “dielectric layer” are intended to be part of the jig structure of claims 1 and 2, is a different issue.

Applicants state that “a semiconductor layer”, “two or more electric conductors” and “dielectric layer” are not part of the jig structure of claims 1 and 2. This is also clear from the language of claims 1 and 2.

In view of the above, withdrawal of the foregoing rejection of claims 1-2 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claim 16

Claim 16 is rejected as being improperly dependent from cancelled claim 11.

In response, claim 16 is canceled, objection thus rendered moot.

V. Response to Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 4 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kenji (JP02-298010).

The Examiner asserts that Kenji teaches, in Fig. 2 and 3, a jig for producing capacitors, the jig comprising two or more current ejection-type constant current sources (8) each having an output electrically connected in series with a connection terminal (shown between each constant current source and each resistor; Fig. 3).

The rejection should be withdrawn because none of the cited references, either alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the jig for producing capacitors, as presently recited in independent claim 1.

Claim 1 recites a jig for producing capacitors, which is used for forming a semiconductor layer by means of energization on two or more electric conductors each having formed on the surface thereof a dielectric layer, the jig comprising two or more current ejection-type constant current sources each having an output electrically connected in series with a connection terminal for the electric conductor, wherein the connection terminal comprises a holding portion for an electric conductor and energization is conducted at the holding portion.

In contrast, in Kenji, though anode extraction lead wire 2 is welded to the aluminum foil (electric conductor), the connection terminal for the jig for producing capacitors is brought into contact with a metal oxide layer, which was additionally formed onto the dielectric layer on the surface of the electric conductor. The jig of Kenji is apparently used in a different form from that of the present invention. In the case of the polymerization apparatus of Kenji, the operations such as conveying a plurality of electric conductors in the step of forming semiconductors and than bringing the connection terminal 7 in contact with the surface of each electric conductor are required.

The connection terminal of the jig for producing capacitors, according to the present invention, possesses a holding portion for electric conductor. The holding portion enables transportation of a plurality of electric conductors connected to the jig for producing capacitors at once with the jig, and energization of each of electric conductors by passing current in a jig. Therefore, the operation of bringing the connection terminal in contact with the electric conductor first time in the step of forming semiconductors as in Kenji is not necessary in the

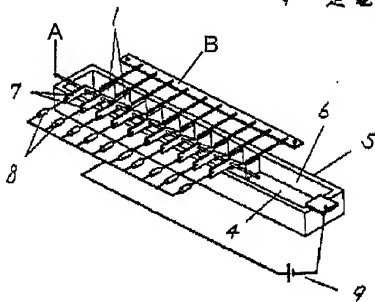
present invention. That is, the jig for producing capacitors disclosed by the present invention has a transport function, too.

In Fig. 2 of Kenji (reproduced below), since anode extraction lead wire 2 is fixed to portion B ("B" is added by the present Applicants for illustration and to facilitate discussion), portion B would be considered as a transportation jig. However, since portion B is not provided with an electric circuit, it can be used only for transporting a plurality of electric conductors.

Fig. 2 of Kenji

第 2 回

8... 定電減素子
9... 定電圧電源



Also as shown in Fig. 2 of Kenji, portion A ("A" is also added by the present Applicants for illustration and to facilitate discussion) comprises a connection terminal to a metal oxide layer on the surface of the electric conductor. Although constant current diode 8 is shown in the figure, the specific structure is not known. Applicants presume that Fig. 2 of Kenji shows a polymerization apparatus comprising all of the connection terminal, constant current diode, polymerization tank and power source. Therefore, the jig of Kenji can be used only as a

polymerization apparatus (an apparatus for forming semiconductors), and another jig comprising constant current diodes, connection terminals and the like, is required to form a dielectric layer.

In view of the above, Kenji does not disclose or suggest the jig for producing capacitors, as presently recited in independent claim 1, having a connection terminal which comprises a holding portion for holding the electric conductor and wherein energization is conducted at the holding portion.

Claims 3-4, 6-9, 17 and 19 all depend from claim 1, and thus, are patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to the patentability of independent claim 1.

Independent claim 2 is not rejected in the present rejection based on Kenji.

Claim 2 recites a jig for producing capacitors that is characterized in using the same jig both for forming a dielectric layer and for forming a semiconductor. The jig of claim 2 of the present application is structurally different from the jig of Kenji. In Kenji, a second jig is required.

Claims 5, 10 and 18 all depend from claim 2, and thus, are patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to the patentability of independent claim 2.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the foregoing §102 rejection base on Kenji. Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of claims 1-10 and 17-19 is earnestly solicited.

VI. Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Yan Lan
Registration No. 50,214

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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